

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-22. (canceled).

23. (Currently amended) A corkscrew comprising: a body ~~and a handle~~, the body including a socket adapted to receive the neck of a bottle sealed by a cork; an actuation lever; an axially rotatable worm spiral mounted on a carriage within the body and arranged to rotate and penetrate the cork as the lever is lowered, the spiral being further arranged to cease rotation as the lever is raised to withdraw the cork from the bottle, the corkscrew being further arranged to discharge the cork from the spiral by lowering and raising the lever after the neck of the bottle has been removed from the socket and wherein the carriage is mounted for movement between upper and lower positions along one or more guide runners extending longitudinally of the body, the spiral being connected to the carriage by a bearing, the spiral being rotatable with respect to the bearing; a guide member having a guideway, the spiral extending through the guideway, wherein the guideway includes a helical threaded bore adapted to receive the spiral, the guideway being adapted to cause the spiral to rotate as the spiral moves axially through the guide member; first latch means being adapted to releasably engage the guide member to the corkscrew body; and second latch means comprising an elongate plate extending from a lower flange portion, the second latch being adapted to releasably engage the guide member to the carriage.

24. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, wherein the first latch is actuated by insertion of the neck of the bottle into the socket.

25. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, wherein when the first latch is engaged, the guide member and carriage may move together to withdraw the cork from the bottle.

26. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 25, wherein when the opened bottle is removed from the socket, the first latch moves under action of a spring to an armed position, wherein the guide member is engaged and prevented from further movement when it is moved to the lower position

27. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, wherein the second latch means is actuated by the first latch means.

28. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 27, wherein when the first latch means is in an armed position, the second latch means is opened.

29. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, wherein when the bottle has been removed from the socket, the first latch means causes the second latch means to move to an open position, wherein the carriage may move freely with respect to the guide member.

30. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 29, wherein when the bottle neck is inserted into the socket, the second latch means is urged into an armed

position wherein the carriage is engaged as it moves to the lower position.

31. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, wherein the first latch means comprises one or more resilient members secured to the interior of the socket and biased inwardly towards the guide member.

32. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 31, wherein the first latch means includes a hook with a downwardly facing restraining surface.

33. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, wherein the first latch means extends from an attachment to a lower part thereof to the corkscrew body and includes an upper, downwardly facing restraining surface located to engage a complementary upwardly extending abutment surface of the guide member.

34. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 33, wherein the first latch means comprises a radially inwardly facing bottle engaging surface.

35. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, wherein the guide member is located on runners between the carriage and socket.

36. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, wherein the second latch means is elongate in the longitudinal direction.

37. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 36, wherein the second latch means is mounted on a pivot on the guide member, the upper end being urged inwardly by a spring.

38. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 36, wherein a lower portion of the second latch means is adapted to engage and cooperate with a complementary surface of the first latch means.

39. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, wherein the second latch means comprises a plate having an aperture adapted to receive and engage a lug extending outwardly from the carriage.

40. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, wherein the upper end of the socket includes an annular ring having a circular groove dimensioned to receive and engage the neck of the bottle, the annulus of the ring defining a cork receiving passageway having a diameter greater than a cork and the passageway having a length sufficient to allow complete withdrawal of the cork into the passageway as the spiral and cork are withdrawn from the bottle in use.

41. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 23, further comprising gripping means adapted to move inwardly when grasped by a user to engage and prevent movement of the neck of the bottle received in the socket.

42. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 41, wherein the gripping means comprise a pair of arms pivotally mounted on the body.

43. (Previously presented) The corkscrew as claimed in claim 42, wherein the gripping means carry bottle engaging pads.